



U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

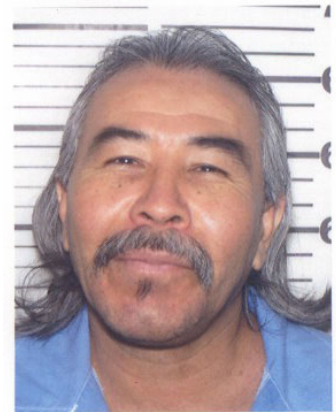
February 24, 2005

News Release

ICE DEPORTS ILLEGAL ALIEN CONVICTED OF METH CRIME

BLOOMINGTON, Minn.—U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention and removal officers deported an illegal alien to Mexico yesterday who had been convicted in Redwood County District Court of first-degree possession of methamphetamine.

Jose Luis Yanes-Rubio, 45, of Mexico, illegally entered the United States in 1998. He was arrested for the drug crime in Nov. 2001 and was convicted in April 2002 and sentenced to 58 months in prison. As a convicted felon, ICE automatically processed him for deportation after he served his criminal sentence.



“Targeting people like Yanes-Rubio is a top priority for us,” said ICE Special Agent-in-Charge Mark Cangemi. “Meth is brutally addictive and has brought an enormous amount of pain and suffering to rural areas of Minnesota. Illegal aliens with criminal convictions will be sought out, arrested and deported.” Cangemi oversees enforcing immigration and customs laws in a five-state area that includes Minnesota.

According to a criminal complaint filed in district court, a housekeeping supervisor at the Jackpot Junction Hotel called the Lower Sioux Police Department Nov. 20, 2001 after discovering drug paraphernalia in a guest room. The police requested assistance from the Redwood County Sheriff’s Department, and officers from both agencies arrived at the hotel room, where they found two bags of powdery substance in addition to the drug paraphernalia.

The officers waited in the room until two men, one of them Yanes-Rubio, and a juvenile female arrived. The juvenile’s purse contained a plastic bag containing 250 grams of methamphetamine, which she said had been given to her by Yanes-Rubio.

ICE special agents encountered Yanes-Rubio while he was serving his sentence for the crime and placed a “detainer” on him, so that ICE was notified and took custody of him Feb. 9 upon his release from prison. In an effort to ensure public safety, ICE conducts checks of jails and prisons nationwide to locate, identify and then deport criminal aliens.

During fiscal year 2004, which ended Sept. 30, ICE detention and removal agents removed 3,152 criminal aliens and status violators from a five-state area that includes: Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota. Of that number, 1,488 were classified as criminal aliens for having been convicted of such crimes as: drug offenses, assault and battery, armed robbery, rape, and fraud, among others. The remaining 1,664 had committed administrative immigration law violations.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.